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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Korea

CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT Kaechon Coal Mine

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ACQUIRED 25X1ANO. OF ENCLS.
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INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X
REPORT NO.

1. The Kaechon Coal Mine at Yonpdan-ni (125-58, 39-49), Puk-nyon, Kaechon County, South Pyongan Province, is owned by the North Korean government. It is organized as follows:

Manager: CHON Pong-sok (조봉석)

General Affairs Section Labor Section Technical Section Business Section Transportation Section

3 employees 3 employees 5 employees 3 employees 3 employees

2. The mine employs about 280 laborers, of whom 30 percent are women. Because of a lack of regular workers, about 40 percent of the laborers are mobilized from among the farmers under the compulsory National Labor Mobilization Plan. The workers are given a daily ration of five hap (about one quart) of mixed grains, containing one third white rice. Dependents of laborers are given less than half that amount. The rationing of other necessities has ceased since the outbreak of the war, since there are no more goods. Because of this lack of food, the workers suffer from malnutrition and overwork, and, therefore, resentment, particularly among the conscripted farmers, is great. The working day is 24 hours, divided into three shifts.
3. The mine has five major shafts. All installations have electricity, and there is a rail line using push cars. Both bituminous coal and anthracite are mined. Most of the materials for the mine are purchased locally, except for lumber, which comes from nearby mountains. The coal is transported to Hujang Station on the Manpo Line by horse and ox carts. Average daily production is from 30 to 40 tons.
4. There are one clinic, one consumers' cooperative, a movie theater, and about 120 houses for the miners. During United Nations air raids, 30 of the houses were destroyed, but the mine installations are intact.

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